LOEB, SIDNEY DRAWER 21a SCULPTORS-L

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Statues of Abraham Lincoln

Sidney Loeb

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71.2002.035.02796

WITH MALICE TOWARD, NONE; WITH CHARITY
STRIVE FOR A JUST AND LASTING
AMONG OURSELVES AND WITH ALL NATIONS
ABRAHAM

SIDNEY LOEB

S c u l p t u r e

20 East Delaware Chicago, Illinois
Whitehall 4970

Sidney Loeb, a native of Chicago, studied art at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Cooper Union, the Beaux Arts Institute of Design, and the Art Student's League in New York City. He was also a student of Lorado Taft. While a student exhibiting at the Art Institute of Chicago, he was awarded the Jenkins Prize and special Honorary mention.

Mr. Loeb taught at the Art Student's League in New York. While there, he was awarded the Guggenheim Fellowship for study in France with a renewal the following year, he retained for two years. On his return from France, Mr.Loeb started an art school in his studio in Chicago.

As a member of the armed forces in World War II, he worked with disabled veterans, teaching them art.

In 1943, he won the coveted Logan Prize and a gold medal at the Art Institute of Chicago. The Art Digest, the Magazine of Art, and Newsweek have all devoted articles to him.

His work was exhibited at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Associated Artists Gallery, the sculpture and Painting Guild Gallery in New York, the Art Museum of Philadelphia, the Woodward Gallery, the Brookings Art Museum, Carnegie Institute of Fine Art in Pittsburgh, Midtown Galleries in New York, the Milwaukee Art Institute, and Los Angeles Fine Art Gallery.

Mr. Loeb's portraits are in several collections, among them a portrait of David Smart, publisher of Esquire Magazine, architect Shephard Vogelgesang of Chicago, Mrs. George M. Howard of Washington, D.C., Mrs. David Mathews of San Clemente, California.

Among others, his paintings and sculptures are in the collections of Norman Shidle of Roxbury, Conn., Harriet Chapman of New York and Pampano Beach, Fla., Pierre Gildesgame K.B.E. of London, Mr. & Mrs. A. Warszawsky of Cannes, France, Robert Sanders of Booth Bay, Maine, Lionel Block of Richmond, England, Jack Cooper of Palm Beach, Fla., Sidney Davidson of New York, John Pontell of Chicago, Mary Bunting of Chicago, Dayton Brown of San Diego, Calif., Rosalyn Castle of Kanddelville, Ind., Jeanne High of West Chicago, Andrew Manz of Long Island, Mr. and Mrs. James Oldham of Yellow Springs, Ohio, Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin F. Hildes of Centralia, Ill., Jane Murray of New York , Meyer Levin, Mr. & Mrs. Stuart MacDonald of Miami, Fla., Mr. & Mrs. Jack Gelb of Elizabeth, N.J. and Deborah Ruby of Rome Italy.

Sidney Loeb lived and had studios in Chicago, New York, Paris and Westport, Conn. He was just building a studio in Williamstown, Mass. when he died in 1972.

SIDNEY LOEB

1904 - 1972

Chicago born Sidney Loeb studied at that city's Art Institute, and at Cooper Union, Beaux Arts Institute and the Art Students League in New York. He had the further distinction of being accepted as a student by the renowned American Sculptor, Lorado Taft.

Mr. Loeb taught at the Students League, and during that period he was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, subsequently renewed, for two years study in France. On his return he opened a teaching atelier in Chicago.

As a student at the Art Institute he was awarded the Jenkins Prize and special Honorable Mention. In 1943 he won the coveted Logan Prize and Gold Medal. Art Digest, The Magazine of Art and Newsweek have devoted articles to his career and achievements.

EXHIBITIONS

Art Institute, Chicago
Associated Artists Gallery, New York
Sculpture and Painting Guild Gallery, New York
Philadelphia Museum of Fine Art
Carnegie Institute of Fine Art, Pittsburgh
Milwaukee Art Institute
Midtown Galleries, New York
Brookings Art Museum
Los Angeles Fine Art Museum

COLLECTIONS

Harriet Chapman, New York and Pompano Beach, Fla.
Pierre Gildesgame, K.B.E., London, England
Deborah Rudy, Rome, Italy
Mr. & Mrs. A. Warszawsky, Cannes, France
Mr. Andrew Manz, Long Island, New York
Mr. Jack Cooper, Palm Beach, Florida
Mr. Lionel Block, Richmond, England
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart MacDonald, Miami, Florida
Mr. Sidney Davidson, New York
Mr. Dayton Brown, San Diego, California
Mr. & Mrs. James Oldham, Yellow Springs, Ohio etc., etc.

Life size sculptures executed by Sidney Loeb are permanently displayed at the Cathedral of St. John The Divine in New York; at the University of Chicago Chapel; at the Post Office in Royal Oaks, Michigan, etc.

PRESENTATION BY THE UNITED STATES OF A STATUE TO ISRAEL

HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

House Joint Resolution 406

OCTOBER 7, 1975

Printed for the use of the Committee on International Relations

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
62-584 WASHINGTON : 1975

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PRESENTATION BY THE UNITED STATES OF A STATUE TO ISRAEL

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1975

House of Representatives,
Committee on International Relations,
Subcommittee on International Operations,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met at 3:30 p.m., in room H-328, the Capitol, Hon. Helen S. Meyner presiding.

Mrs. Meyner. I would like to welcome you here, Congressman Ottinger, and Leon Gildesgame and your wife.

Congressman Ottinger, why don't you just go ahead with your statement.

STATEMENT OF HON. RICHARD L. OTTINGER, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Mr. Ottinger. Mr. and Mrs. Leon Gildesgame are the benefactors, purchasing the statue, and arranging for its donation to the State of Israel. The artist is a man named Sidney Loeb from Chicago.

Mrs. Meyner. I see.

Mr. Ottinger. Madam Chairman and distinguished members of the subcommittee:

I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to appear before you today to briefly speak to you about House Joint Resolution 406, which provides for the presentation by the President, on behalf of the people of the United States, of a statue of Abraham Lincoln to the people of Israel.

I would like to introduce you at this time to the two individuals who accompany me here today—the present owners of this full-life Lincoln statue—Mr. and Mrs. Leon Gildesgame. It is entirely due to the hard work and dedicated efforts of Leon and Ruth Gildesgame that this most meaningful project is before you today, and it is through their generous donation of this award-winning statue sculpted by Chicago artist Sidney Loeb, that this demonstration of our country's affinity with Israel will hopefully be able to take place.

Abraham Lincoln symbolized for me and for millions of other Americans and to people all over the world, the cherished dreams of freedom, human dignity, and hope for mankind. It is these same dreams under which the State of Israel was born and under which it continues to thrive. Therefore, it is a most significant gesture for the

people of our great democracy to present a statue of Abraham Lincoln—a man who embodies the ideals of democracy and freedom—to the people of Israel, who share with us these deeply held human values.

President Lincoln strove for a society in which there was equal justice for all. Indeed, these ideals to which he dedicated his life are derived from Hebrew prophetic traditions which are also alive in the State of Israel today. Thus this symbolic gesture of both American-Israeli friendship, and of dedication by two free peoples to a shared body of beliefs, is a most worthy and fitting one.

Among the many groups which have expressed their strong support of this resolution are the America-Israel Friendship League, the America-Israel Cultural Foundation, and the American Jewish Committee. In addition, Senator Jacob Javits has indicated his strong backing of this measure, and he will be the sponsor of this resolution in the other body.

The State Department commented most favorably on the legislation. I have no objection to the Department's recommendation in its report that the last sentence of the resolution be stricken to make it absolutely clear that there will be no expense involved on the part of the U.S. Government, in fact, all transportation costs will be borne by the Zim-Israel Navigation Co., the Gildesgame family, and the municipality of Ramat Gan, where the statue will be placed.

I would like to personally thank Chairman Hays for his invaluable advice and support. I understand his inability to be with us today, but he has been very helpful to us in bringing this project along. I urge that all members of this subcommittee join in these efforts so that this meaningful expression of good relations between two great democratic peoples can be carried out.

Thank you.

Mrs. MEYNER. Thank you, Congressman Ottinger. I believe you have a picture of the statue. It might be interesting to hold that up or pass it around. Abraham Lincoln was a tall man. How tall is the statue?

STATEMENT OF LEON GILDESGAME, MOUNT KISCO, N.Y.

Mr. GILDESGAME. The statue and the pedestal is 92 inches.

Mrs. MEYNER. And in feet, that is what? My mathematics aren't that quick.

Mr. GILDESGAME. Seven and a half feet.

Mrs. MEYNER. A little over life size.

Mr. GILDESGAME. Yes, a little over life size. He was very tall. I think he was 6 feet 8 or thereabouts. I have his exact measurements which I can give you. He was 6 foot 4 without shoes and heels.

Mrs. MEYNER. Thank you. It is a very handsome statue, and it is very good of you to make this presentation. I think there was, in a letter to you, Congressman Ottinger, from Chairman Thomas Morgan, a point he made, that while the Department of State endorsed the project, it is recommended that the last sentence of the resolution be stricken to insure that there would, in fact, be no cost to the U.S. Government.

Mr. OTTINGER. As I indicated in my statement, that is perfectly agreeable.

Mrs. MEYNER. What about insuring the statue en route?

Mr. GILDESGAME. I will take care of that.

As a matter of fact, it is insured now, and orginally insured as we and I am taking care of all that.

Mrs. MEYNER. How will it be transported to Israel?

Mr. GILDESGAME. It will have to be properly packed at the foundr where it is now, and delivered to the Port of New York when ther is a Zim ship ready to take it. The expense involved in packing it an delivering it to New York; I will see to. No Government departmen will have to bear any expense. After it arrives in Israel, the municipa ity of Ramat Gan, which I saw only 6 weeks ago, will take care of a expenses from the moment of its arrival, including costs of its erectio and of its pedestal. A sculptor will make a special pedestal of Israe rock with inscriptions of several quotations of Abraham Lincoln which were inspired by his reading of the prophets of the Bible. Th pedestal will have on it, in English, Lincoln's statement and, under neath, in Hebrew, the quotation from the prophets of the Bible b which it was inspired.

We all know Lincoln was brought up with the Bible of which h was a lifelong admirer. He constantly quoted it. During the last 3 year I have studied Lincoln's sayings at various times and circumstances And, Congressman Ottinger, I have a mass of documents showing how close Lincoln was to the highest principles of prophetic ethics an morality, including the concepts of liberty and freedom.

Mrs. MEYNER. Have you determined yet what quotes you are going to use on the base of the statue?

Mr. GILDESGAME. Not yet. I have two professors from Tel Aviv University, and one, an American by the way, who is at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. I put the problems before them and said "I want you to give me several quotations from Abraham Lincoln's speeches or letters and their equivalent or source from our Bible." That is what they are working on, and I shall get it within the next week or two and I will submit it to Congressman Ottinger because he has to approve of everything in this matter. May I say here how grateful I am to him and to Ogden Reid and to all of you distinguished Representatives for all the help given me to carry this forward.

Mr. OTTINGER. We will be pleased to let the committee know what that selection is. I would like to say that the Gildesgames have been working on this for a goodly number of years. They have put forth a fantastic effort.

Mrs. MEYNER. I think it is a wonderful thing that you have done; no token but a great show of support and friendship between Israel and the United States, and you are certainly to be highly commended for taking on this project and carrying it through.

Mr. GILDESGAME. Thank you very much. There is one other reason, if I may add, why I have taken this on in addition to all the other reasons mentioned by Congressman Ottinger. It is this: there is a striking similarity in the histories of the two peoples; the American people and their struggles and their aims and objectives, and all that the Jewish people endured. It is enough to read the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights and the Constitution of America, and then to read their origins in the Bible. I wanted to emphasize the

friendship between America and Israel apart from politics. I want to raise it to the highest standard of our religious culture, ethics, and history. It does not involve armies, money, or politics.

At first I had an offer by the Department of State to take it on, entirely by themselves, and to present the Lincoln statue to the State of Israel as a gift from the Government of America to the Government of Israel. I thanked them very much, but I said, "governments come and governments go, but the people of America are here forever and the people of Israel are here forever." I want it as a link of people to people rather than from government to government. I took the same position with the American Bicentennial Administration. Dr. Blue of that administration was very anxious that I give him the statue. Again I held back—I wanted more than a 1-year observance. This is eternal: the eternity of the Holy Land, the eternity of the Jewish people: and the eternal struggle and example to the world of what America will eternally stand for.

For all these reasons I thought of Abraham Lincoln. He was such a wonderful man himself, and he suffered, God knows, because of his fight for justice and liberty. Therefore, I thought to myself this is the right person, the great American, Honest Abe: he belongs there, in Israel as well as here.

Mrs. MEYNER. A very fine sentiment.

Congressman Buchanan.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

I would certainly join in commending Mr. and Mrs. Gildesgame for this wonderfully generous gift and most meritorious idea, and our colleague for his resolution and his leadership in this matter. I feel sure that our committee will look favorably upon this resolution with appreciation for your generosity, sir. I think perhaps we ought to put Mr. Gildesgame on a lecture tour, having heard you speak, to help people really appreciate what our country really stands for and that which lies at the heart of our freedom.

You were speaking about the similarity between Israel and the United States, and your reference to Scripture. I would call your attention to the last half of the eighth chapter of the Book of Deuteronomy beginning I think with the seventh verse and with the words, "For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into the good land."

The reference, of course, is to the Promised Land but I never read it without thinking of our own country, and the similarity in the Scriptures, between what is happening in the United States and in Israel, not only since its rebirth but in the long history of the nation.

Mr. GILDESGAME. Only yesterday I read a piece. I have so many books on Lincoln. One interesting thing which has nothing to do with history but with character. He quoted the Bible saying: "With the sweat of your brow you shall eat your bread." Lincoln said: With the sweat of your brow, and don't have the sweat of other people's brows, whether it's slaves or other people and you come and eat without having worked for it. Lincoln said that, and that concept comes from the Bible. There are so many other similarly beautiful thoughts expressed. It is fascinating to read them. He is a great personality, a wonderful man, a model to mankind.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Chairman, I am constrained to say that it is deeply gratifying to hear these wonderful words from our distinguished guest and from our distinguished colleague in praise of the founder of my party. We are very happy to share him.

Mrs. MEYNER. That is right. We keep forgetting that. He was an enlightened Republican.

Mr. OTTINGER. As is Mr. Buchanan.

Mrs. MEYNER. Yes, as is my colleague from Alabama, very enlightened; yes.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Thank you.

Mrs. MEYNER. Thank you very, very much, Mr. Gildesgame. We are deeply appreciative of Representative Ottinger and your coming down, both of you, to make this presentation. Again I want to apologize or explain that the chairman, Mr. Hays, was called to Ohio on an emergency matter. He just left a half hour ago and was very sorry not to have had an opportunity to meet you and greet you. Thank you again very much indeed.

Mr. GILDESGAME. May I take this opportunity of thanking Congressman Hays for his beautiful letters that I received fully approving of the idea, wholeheartedly so. I think it's so good to know, and the same is true of Senator Sparkman and many other Senators and Congressmen who wrote me such letters that I feel very proud that I am really doing something. I didn't realize that I was doing something that is so really worthwhile.

Mrs. MEYNER. Thank you very much.

We will stand adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 3:45 p.m., the subcommittee adjourned.]

APPENDIX

LETTER FROM HON. THOMAS E. MORGAN, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TO HON. RICHARD L. OTTINGER, JULY 30, 1975, TRANSMITTING STATE DEPARTMENT REPORT ON HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 406

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D.C., July 30, 1975.

HON. RICHARD L. OTTINGER,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR DICK: Enclosed please find a copy of a report which the Committee has received on your bill, H.J. Res. 406, legislation which would provide for the presentation of a statue of Abraham Lincoln to Israel.

You will note that while the Department of State endorses the project, it has recommended that the last sentence of the Resolution be stricken to insure that there would, in fact, be no cost to the United States Government.

Because H.J. Res. 406 has been referred to the Subcommittee on International Operations, I have forwarded the State Department report to its Chairman, the Honorable Wayne L. Hays, for his information and use.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS E. MORGAN,
Chairman.

REPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO HON. THOMAS E. MORGAN, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, DATED JULY 29, 1975, ON HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 406

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, D.C., July 29, 1975.

Hon. THOMAS E. MORGAN,
Chairman, Committee on International Relations, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Secretary has asked me to thank you for your letter of May 7 requesting the Department's comments concerning House Joint Resolution 406 to provide for the presentation to Israel of a statue of Abraham Lincoln.

The Department understands that the costs of transporting and installing the statue to be donated by Mr. Leon Gildesgame would be borne, *inter alia*, by the Zim-Israel Navigation Company, the America-Israel Cultural Foundation and the municipality of Ramat Gan. Provided the presentation would involve no expense to the U.S. Government and the presentation is acceptable to the Government of Israel, the Department is pleased to endorse this worthwhile project. To insure that there would, in fact, be no cost to the U.S. Government, the Department recommends that the last sentence of House Joint Resolution 406 be stricken.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that from the standpoint of the Administration's program there is no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely,

ROBERT J. MCCLOSKEY,
Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations.

Text of House Joint Resolution 406 as Amended by the Subcommittee

Joint Resolution To provide for the presentation by the United States to Israel of a statue of Abraham Lincoln to be donated by Leon and Ruth Gildesgame, of Mount Kisco, New York.

Whereas President Abraham Lincoln symbolizes for millions of Americans the cherished dreams of freedom, human dignity, and hope for mankind;

Whereas the people of the State of Israel share with the American people those dreams which Abraham Lincoln symbolizes; and

Whereas Leon and Ruth Gildesgame, of Mount Kisco, New York, are the owners of an award-winning statute of Abraham Lincoln which they have expressed an interest in donating to the United States in order that it may be given as a gift from the people of the United States to the people of Israel: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

That the President (1) shall accept, on behalf of the United States, a statue of Abraham Lincoln from Leon and Ruth Gildesgame, of Mount Kisco, New York and (2) shall present such statue to the people of Israel on behalf of the people of the United States.

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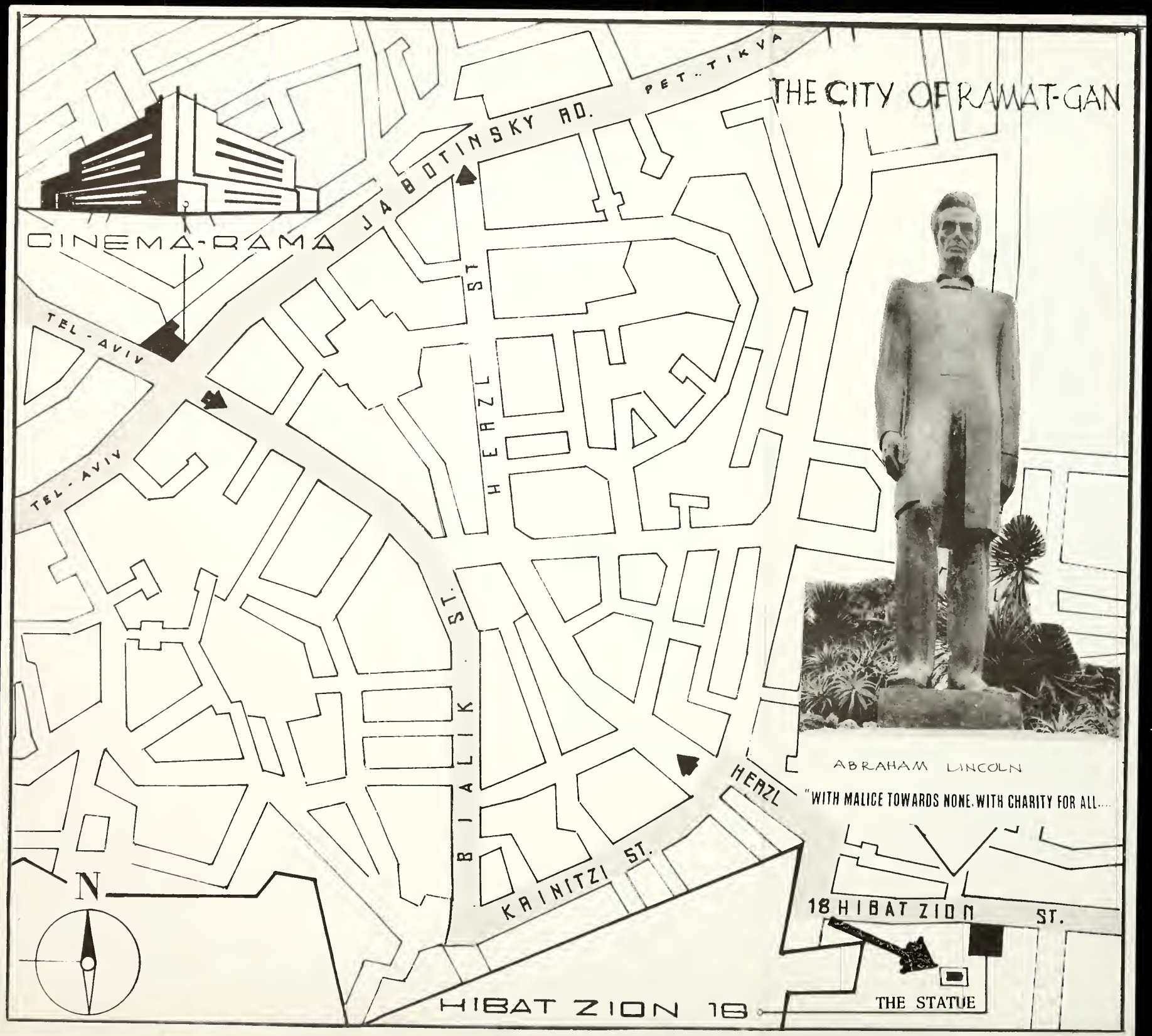
THE CITY OF RAMAT-GAN
CINEMA-RAMA
JABOTINSKY RD.
PET-TIKVA
TEL-AVIV
TEL-AVIV
HERZL ST
BIALIK ST.
KAINITZI ST.
HERZL
ABRAHAM LINCOLN
"WITH MALICE TOWARDS NONE. WITH CHARITY FOR ALL....
18 HIBAT ZION ST.
THE STATUE
HIBAT ZION 16
N

Ninety-fourth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the nineteenth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-six

Joint Resolution

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Carl Albert

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Dick Clark

~~Vice President of the United States and~~ Acting *President of the Senate* pro Tempore.

APPROVED

FEB 4 - 1976

Gerald R. Ford

RAMAT GAN
Municipal Cultural Center
18, Hibat Zion St.

Statue of Abraham Lincoln - a modern style sculpture, which won the Chicago Art Institute prize in 1949, by - Sidney Loeb.

Abraham Lincoln's statue was donated by Ruth and Leon Gildesgame, of Kisco, New York, to the Congress of the USA with the intention to offer it as a gift from the American people to the people of Israel.

On 19th Jan. 1976 the Congress of the USA, on a special session, unanimously approved this act.(see resolution).

On 23rd May 1976 the official unveiling ceremony was held at the Cultural Center of Ramat Gan, with the participation of:

* The Prime Minister, Mr. I. Rabin
* Mayor of Ramat Gan Dr. I.Peled
* A personal representative of the President Rabbi H. Shachter
* Charge d'Affaire A.D. Intearim Mr. Thomas J. Dunnigan
* The Doner, Mr. L. Gildesgame
* The Statue is exhibited in an open area, which allows visiting at any hour.

Office of the Mayor
City of Ramat-Gan
Israel
עירית רמת־גן

Dr. Israel Peled
MAYOR

July 4th, 1976

TO

Dear Friend,

We, the citizens of Ramat Gan, Israel, are deeply honored by your gracious gift, the statue of President Abraham Lincoln. We are most grateful for the resolution of the people of the United States to make this presentation to the people of Israel.

For the American People, President Abraham Lincoln symbolizes the American struggle for freedom, human dignity, equality and hope for all, irrespective of race or creed. Therefore, Lincoln's image has special significance to the People of Israel.

The Jewish People, too, have had to struggle continuously for their freedom and equality in many countries, and for the freedom and independence of their homeland, Israel. In this struggle our martyrs are innumberable.

When David Ben Gurion as Prime Minister, led the Jewish struggle for independence, he made his headquarters in Ramat Gan. The erection of this statue in Ramat Gan's Cultural Center is quite fitting, and will surely lead to even greater friendship and understanding between the people of America and the People of Israel.

The Dedication Ceremony of the Statue in our City, was held in a most friendly atmosphere epitomizing the very ideals of Abraham Lincoln, and was addressed by:

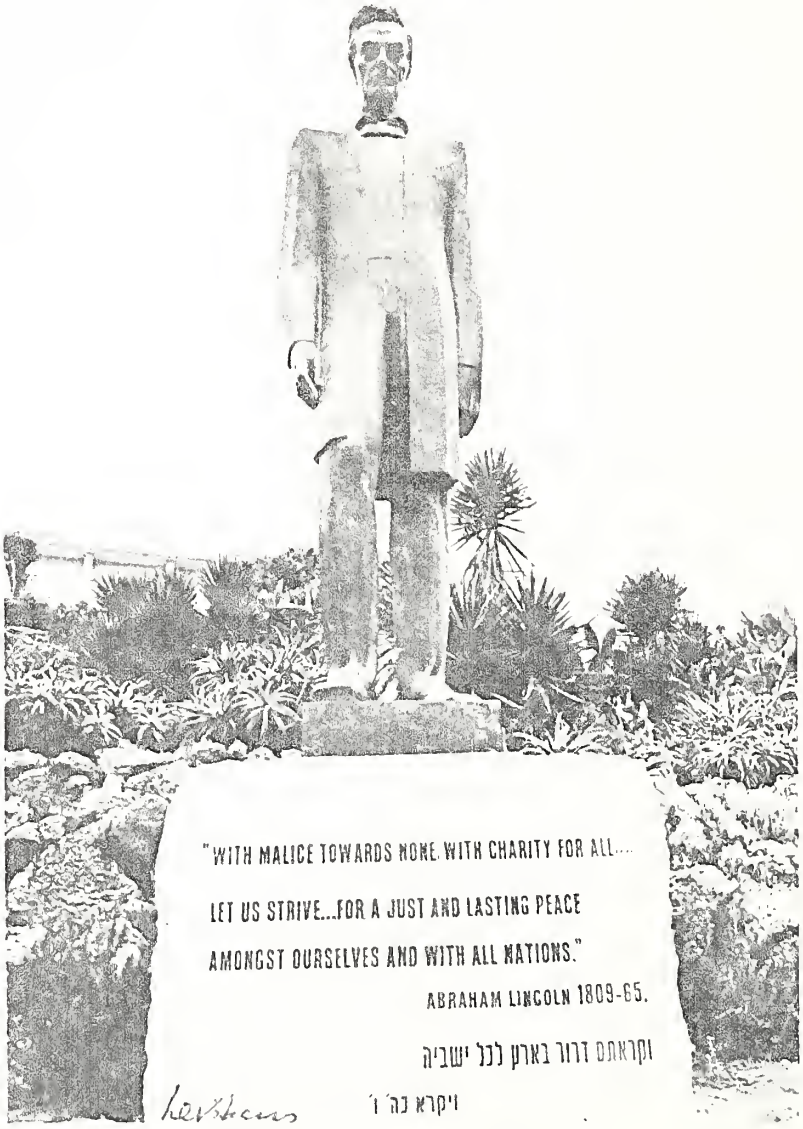
The Prime Minister, Mr. I. Rabin
A personal representative of the U.S. President, Rabbi H. Shachter
Charge D'Affaires ad interim, Mr. Thomas J. Dunnigan
The Donor, Mr. L. Gildesgame
Mayor of Ramat Gan, Dr. I. Peled

To you, I wish to express our hearfelt thanks for your encouragement and wisdom in nursing the idea through legislation and into law.

It is my earnest wish that the sentiments expressed by so many at this dedication be fulfilled, and that in this Bicentenial Year of the United States of America, the Statue be a fitting reminder of the strong ties between the States and Israel. Let us pray that the People of Israel be granted a lasting peace.

With my sincere good wishes,

Dr. I. Peled
Mayor



Levitans
25-10

"WITH MALICE TOWARDS NONE WITH CHARITY FOR ALL
LET US STRIVE FOR A JUST AND LASTING PEACE
AMONGST OURSELVES AND WITH ALL NATIONS"

"WITH MALICE TOWARDS NONE. WITH CHARITY FOR ALL....

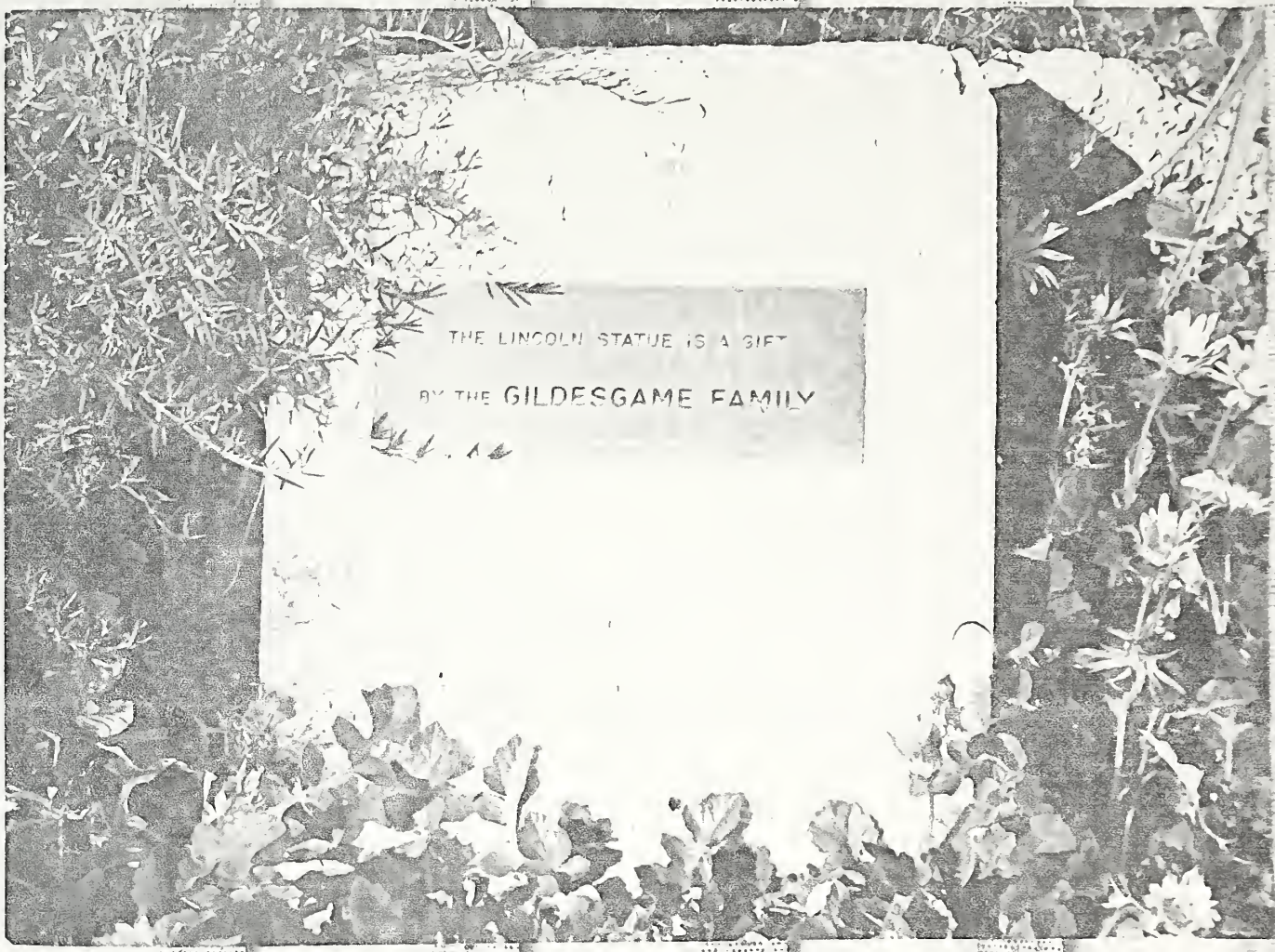
LET US STRIVE...FOR A JUST AND LASTING PEACE

AMONGST OURSELVES AND WITH ALL NATIONS."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN 1809-65.

וקראתם דרור בארץ לכל ישביה

ויקרא כה' ו


THE LINCOLN STATUE IS A GIFT
BY THE GILDESGAME FAMILY

RESIDENCE & GILDESGAME FOUNDATION,
MILLWOOD ROAD
MT. KISCO, N. Y. 10549
PHONES: (914) 666-4334 AND 7455
N. Y. OFFICE (212) 679-4620

CABLES: GILDESGAME MT. KISCO

LINCOLN LIFE
Referred to Dr Reilly
RECD JUN 29 1981
Answered
Office of Ian M. Rolland

LEON L. GILDESGAME

Mt. Kisco, N.Y. June 25, 1981

Mr. Ian M. Rolland, President,
Lincoln National Corporation,
1300 So. Clinton Street,
Ft. Wayne, Indiana 46801

Dear Mr. Rolland:

We were deeply impressed when reading your last Annual Report, which was sent to us by our Stock Exchange brokerage house Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc., as we are investors in your Corporation.

We maintain five (5) Gildesgame accounts at Merrill Lynch, namely, my wife Ruth, our two sons Daniel and Myron, Our Gildesgame Foundation account, and my own account.

We also maintain the same five (5) accounts at the Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company of New York for about four decades. Since my wife's parents and grandparents also maintained accounts at the former Hanover Bank, our children are actually the fifth generation clients at the Manufacturers Hanover Trust.

Our Independent Auditors, Ernst & Whinney, who are also your Auditors, have drawn my attention to your splendid Annual Report for the special additional reason that your report devotes a lot of space to the history and marvelous achievements of Abraham Lincoln.

All of our friends in the U.S.A., in England and in Israel, as well as all members of both Houses of Congress are well aware of our special admiration for Abraham Lincoln. Instead of relating the full story of our actions in honoring that former great president, I am enclosing a copy of the Joint Resolution which passed unanimously by both Houses of Congress, and was approved and signed by former President Gerald Ford on February 4, 1976. As you can see from the enclosures, that life-sized statue of Abraham Lincoln, when he was still a Congressman at the age of 38, is now standing in the Culture Center of the Garden City Ramat Gan in Israel. Tens of thousands of tourists from all over the world are visiting it and being photographed with it. The pedestal on which the bronze statue is standing was made of Jerusalem rock, because in one of Lincolin's letters he stated that he hopes and prays that one day his feet will step on the rocks of the Holy City of Jerusalem. All the costs and expenses relating to the purchase of the original statue from the widow of the sculptor Sidney Loeb, the cost of casting it into bronze, etc. was borne by us, the Gildesgame Family, and the cost of the pedestal and expenses connected therewith was borne by the former Senator and now President of the America Israel Friendship League, the Honorable Herbert Tenzer. This statue is unique because it is the only one in the world.

RESIDENCE & GILDESGAME FOUNDATION,
MILLWOOD ROAD
MT. KISCO, N. Y. 10549
PHONES: (914) 666-4334 AND 7455
N. Y. OFFICE (212) 679-4620

CABLES: GILDESGAME MT. KISCO

LEON L. GILDESGAME

Mr. Ian M. Rolland, President,
Lincoln National Corporation

Mt.Kisco,N.Y.
June 25, 1981

I consulted with one of my friends at Ernst & Whinney, as to whether I should give you the exclusive advantage of acquiring this same statue for your company, to be erected anywhere in the U.S.A., and, preferably in Washington, D. C.

I am willing to give this idea my wholehearted support, realizing as I do, as former businessman and chief of many companies in England and the U.S.A., that this project by you should bring you tremendous publicity and admiration, and consequently generate numerous new clients for your Corporation. Abe Lincoln certainly has millions of admirers all over the U.S.A.

My wife and I are flying to Israel this coming weekend, and so are many hundreds of our friends who, among others, will visit the Abraham Lincoln statue in Ramat Gan. We plan to return home by the middle of July, by which time we hope to find your reply, which we expect will contain a number of questions. We will be happy to answer your questions without undue delay. Please note that we are doing all this work and investment as a labor of love, without any desire to benefit materially.

In the meantime, we send you our best wishes, and are looking forward to your kind reply.

Sincerely yours,

Leon L. Gildesgame

LLG/gg
Enclosures
3 photos
please return
to L.L.G.

THE LOUIS A. WARREN
LINCOLN LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

1300 SOUTH CLINTON STREET / FORT WAYNE, INDIANA 46801

MARK E. NEELY, JR.
Director

Telephone (219) 424-5421

August 10, 1981

Mr. Leon L. Gildesgame
Gildesgame Foundation
Millwood Road
Mt. Kisco, New York 10549

Dear Mr. Gildesgame:

Mr. Rolland referred your letter to me for reply. Lincoln National Life takes a keen interest in Lincoln projects and applauds your efforts. Nevertheless, the Company focuses its direct support for Lincoln activities on this institution. By supporting this Lincoln collection for over fifty years, Lincoln National Life has created the largest private Lincoln collection in the country. This institution makes available to the public a large permanent Lincoln exhibit, research facilities, photographs, a monthly bulletin, pamphlets, lectures, and numerous occasional publications--all free of charge. All of this requires tremendous financial backing, and the Company, though it is happy to see any well-conceived Lincoln project get off the ground, is unable to give direct support to them all.

As for statuary, we already have a Lincoln statue by Paul Manship in front of the home office. Therefore, we must decline your kind offer.

As we already have copies of your materials on file here, I am returning your enclosures herewith.

Sincerely yours,

Mark E. Neely Jr.

Mark E. Neely, Jr.

MEN/vpg
Enclosures

LOEB, SIDNEY DRAWER 21a SCULPTORS-L